Company to the superior and the superior anamed and the superior and the superior and the superior and the s Scientific Sprague

The Exploits of a New Kind of Detective

By Francis Lynde

TNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS. Calvin Sorague (college professor, governassing elemination, former atherte) comes West to visit Naswell, his chain, who is so perintendent f a branch rational. The railroad has been strangely shincing of late, his string of misforrimes implying himsin agency rather than colladelence. Sprighteris himself to solve the mishery, the extresses is consultage, of the Transcontinuouslat Campaing to shad the control of Matterill's line.

CHAPTER III. High Finance in Cromarty

Maxwell turned back to his desk.

"Metallic casket, probably," he suggested. "They had our agent wire Brewster for the best that could be had. Said they were going to ship the body to some little town in Kentucky. They're rather a queer lot."

"Whe—the Kentuckians?"

"No; the Molly Baidwin outfit. The mine was opened by a syndicate of New York people four years ago, and after the New Yorkers had put two or three hundred thousand into it without taking anything out, they gave it up in disgust. Then a couple

"Men the auperintendent as a trained emergency captain should. "Call sheriff Harding on the phone and tell him to rustle up a posse and report here, quick! Then got the yard office and turn me out an engine and a coach for Harding's men. Hustle it!"

While he was closing his desk he made hurried explanation to Sprague. "It's probably the Scott Weber gang. They held up a train on the main line over in Utah ten days ago. Come on upstairs with me and we'll get the facts."

When the auperintendent gave it up in disgust. Then a couple of young fellows from Cripple Creek came along and leased the property. There was a crooked deal somewhere,

There was a crooked deal somewhere, for the young fellows began to take out pay—big pay—right from the start. Then the New York people wanted to 'renig' on the lease, and dragged the thing into the courts."

"And the courts said no?"

"The courts straddied. I didn't follow he fight in detail, but the final decirien was that the leasees were to keep all they could take out each month up to a certain amount. If they exceeded that amount the excess was to be shared equally with the

The state of the property will be a state of the property of t And appearantly in heart's design of the remains of the water. As the control of the train to fleware. The control of the train to fleware. As the control of the cont

two, who had been college classmates, had seen little of each other for a number of years. Maxwell told how had one into railroading under former three contents of a first summer in the Transcentingual Company to the

get them to New York?"

"My chief clerk, Caimaine, will deliver them in person, He'll meet us at Brewster and go right along on this train, which, by the way, is the next to the last one he could take and make New York on time. It's all arranged,"

The guest smoked on in silence for a little time, and when he spoke again it was to ask the name of the junction station at which the late stop had been made.

"It's Little Butte—where our Red Butte branch comes in from jhe north."

"You'd been stopping over there?"
Sprague asked.

"No," was the instant objection. "That is where you're wrong. A man does his best work as an arhateur—in any line. As long as the manhunting comes in the way of a recreation I enjoy it keenly. But if I had to make a business of it it would be different." Then he changed the subject by asking about Tarbell, Maxwell's ex-cowboy division detective, who had served as his understudy in the "wire-devil" case a few weeks earlier.

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"Archer is all right," was the reply, "only he'd like to break away from me and go with you. He thinks you are about the one only top-notcher; says he'd like to take lessons of you for a year or so."

Sprague was gazing absentiy out of the nearby window. "Speaking of angels," he broke in; "there is Tarbell, right now, coming down your office start three steps at a jump." and a start three steps at a jump." and a

doubles back on the branch."

"Um; little Butte; good name. You people out here run pretty persistently to Buttes,' don't you? Did I, or didn't I, see a funeral at this particular Butte as we came along?"

"You did. It's Murtrie; a mining engineer who has been doing a sort of weighmaster's stunt at the Molly last might, they say."

"Large man?" queried the Government chemist, half sbeently; and Maxwell looked up quickly.

"Beefy rather than big, yes. How could you toil?"

Sprague waved his cigar as if the question were childish and the answer obvious. "It took a dozen of them, more or less, to put him into the express car."

Maxwell turned back to his dosk.

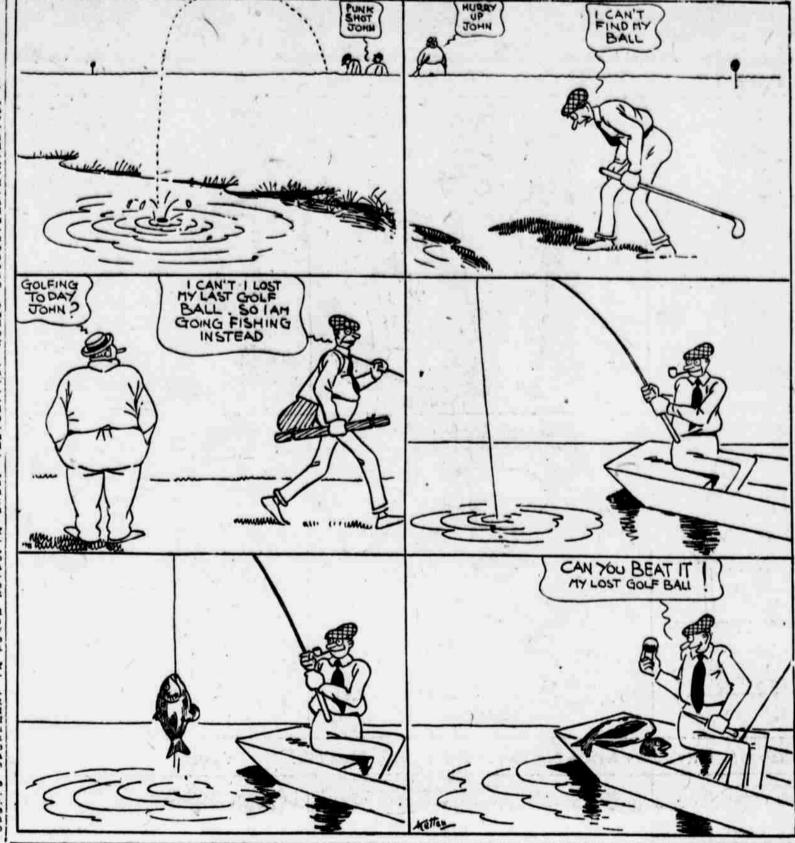
swer obvious. "It took a dozen of trified. "What's that you say?" he demand-them, more or less, to put him into the express car." A hold-up?" Then he went Maxwell turned back to his desk. Into action promptly, as a trained "Metallic casket, probably," he sug-sheriff Harding on the phone and tell sheriff Harding on the phone and tell sheriff Harding on the phone and report

When the superintendent, accomwhen the superintendent, accompanied by his broad-shouldered guest, climbed a stair and entered the despatcher's office, fat, round-faced Daniel Connolly was rattling the key at the train-sheet table. He glanced up at the door opening.

"I'm mighty glad Tarbell found

"Whom have you got no assets was to be shared equally with the "Allen, night operator at Corona. The train is there, and I've been holding its of room for shenanigan in that," was the big man's passing with McCarty, the conductor." "Tell me the story as you've got it: then I'll tell you what to say to

Can You Beat It? By Maurice Ketten



When the superintendent, accompanied by his broad-shouldered guest, climbed "star and entered the despatcher's office, fat, round-faced Datalel Connoily was rattling the key at the train-sheet table. He glanced up at the door opening.

"I'm mighty glad Tarbell found, you," he broke out, with a gasp of relief." I'm was afraid you'd gone home." The Sheriff noded. "Tve heard the story?" The Sheriff noded. "Tve heard the story?" The Sheriff noded. "Tve heard the story?" It seems to be. The dead man is shouldered one: "How are you, Mr. "Allen, night operator at Corona. "Allen, night operator at Corona. The train is there, and I've been holding is to give you a chance to talk with McCarty, the conductor."

"Tell me the superintendent, accompanied by his broad-shouldered guest, climbed "- stair and smoked of the spatcher's office, fat, round-faced Datale (and the spatcher's office, fat, round-fac

was put on the train at Little Butte "We're coming to it; this is the to be taken East to some little town a Kentucky. What's your guess?"

A few minutes later the two-car train slowed down and came to a stand on a sharp curve at the head to be taken be taken be taken be taken. Then he called to the train about it."

Once more Sprague peered into the still lined interior, stooping to send to send the only doctor there is in it," Max-destroyed half of the outer case. Then he called to the Then, snapping the awtich of the case well asserted. Then he called to the Then, snapping the awtich of the case well asserted.

NEXT WEEK'S COMPLETE MOVEL IN THE EVENING WORLD Jacqueline of Golden River By VICTOR ROUSSEAU

There far is to Brewster? In savening the savening and th

At was only his respect for the big

the incident could possibly be known to one who had been thirty miles away at the moment of its happening. "Go on and tell us about it." Sprague directed, and at this Connolly me." found his tongue.

"It was them two fellows that are operating the Molly Baldwin mine, Calthrop and Higgins. They'd heard of the hold-up through the operator at Little Butte, they said, and they drove down in their auto. They seemed to be a whole lot stirred up about the taking of Murtrie's body; said they felt responsible to his friends in the East. They wanted to (To Be Continued.)

The Fight.

ONNOLLY looked his astonishment and nodded an affirmative.

"Two men from out of town, woren't they?"

Sprague suggested.

Again the despatcher nodded, and it was only his respect for the big man that kept him from asking how the incident could possibly be known should say unhesitatingly that he is a should say unhesitatingly that he is a young man for an emergency, quick to think, and fully as quick to act. I'm banking on that impression and hoping that he hasn't disappointed

"Then you know what has become